30

POL 14 VIETS

994

Department of State TELEGRAM

Saigon 4894

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAIGON 04894 041305Z

46
ACTION FA 19

INFO SP 02,SS 35,GPM 03,SC 01,NSC 10,RSC 01,SAL 01,IO 21,ACDA 17,
SAH 03,AID 30,L 03,H 02,P 04,INR 07,RSR 01,NSCE 00,CIAE 00,
SSO 00,DODE 00,USIE 00,NSAE 00,CCO 00,/160 W

O R 041230Z SEP 67 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6188
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4107
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG 887
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2416

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Szenberg DATE 12/23/81
RDS ☐ or XES ☐ EXT. DATE
13 AUTH. BASIS
EXCISE EXEMPTION ☐
DECLASSIFY ☐ DECLASS ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 4894

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: VIET NAM ELECTION: OBSERVATION OF VOTING IN KIEN HOA

1. ELECTION DAY IN KIEN HOA WENT SMOOTHLY IN SPITE OF A NUMBER OF VC-INITIATED ACTIONS DESIGNED TO DISRUPT VOTING. THE BIG SURPRISE OF THE DAY WAS THE STRONG SECOND-PLACE FINISH BY TRUONG DINH DZU AND THE RELATIVELY WEAK SHOWING OF TRAN VAN HUONG. THE THIEU-KY TICKET, AS EXPECTED, RECEIVED A LARGE PLURALITY. TOP TX TICKETS FINISHED AS FOLLOWS: THIEU-KY 39.7 PERCENT; DZU-CHIEU 13.6 PERCENT; HUONG-TRUYEN

(1)

8.8 PERCENT; SUU-DAN 6.7 PERCENT; KY-DINH 6.7 PERCENT.

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 04894 041305Z

2. THE ATMOSPHERE IN KIEN HOA WAS ONE OF GAIETY AND ANTICIPATION. THERE WERE A FEW DIFFICULTIESZG SUCH AS ONE INSTANCE OF A VOTING LIST FOR MILITARY NOT BEING AT CORRECT POLLING STATION, PLUS ONE OBSERVATION OF A SHORTAGE OF BALLOTS. BUT THESE WERE QUICKLY CORRECTED AND CAUSED NO MORE THAN MINOR DELAYS. VOTING IRREGULARITIES WERE SIMILARLY INCONSEQUENTILA-- FOR EXAMPLE, THERE WERE TOO FEW CANDIDATES' REPRESENTATIVES TO HAVE ONE AT EACH POLLING STATION. THOSE AVAILABLE, HOWEVER, MERELY DOUBLED UP COVERAGE. SOME OFFICIALS DISTRIBUTING BALLOTS CONSITENTLY PLACED THE THIEU-KY OR HUONG-TRUYEN BALLOTS ON TOP, BUT IN VIEW OF THE RESULTS IT SEEMS DOUBTFUL THAT THIS CHANGED MANY VOTES.

3. A SIGNIFICANT RESULT OF THE ELECTIONS APPEARS TO BE THE CONVICTION OF THE POPULACE THAT THEY WERE HONEST. FOR EXAMPLE, THE KIEN HOA REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE SUU-DAN TICKET, WHO TOLD EMBOFF IN JULY ELECTIONS WERE CERTAIN TO BE UNFAIR, HAS HAD COMPLETE CHANGE IN ATTITUDE. THIS SAME PERSON TOLD EMBOFF AS RETURNS WERE COMING IN "THERE IS NO DOUBT THESE ELECTIONS WERE FAIR AND HONEST, AND THIS IS A GOOD THING FOR THE POEPLE

PAGE THREE RUMJIR 4894/ C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
OF VIET NAM

BUNKER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

UNCLASSIFIED